The Lions' Pride

SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY • FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2015 • VOLUME LIII NO. 21 • SINCE 1965

# Subsidized v. Unsubsidized loans

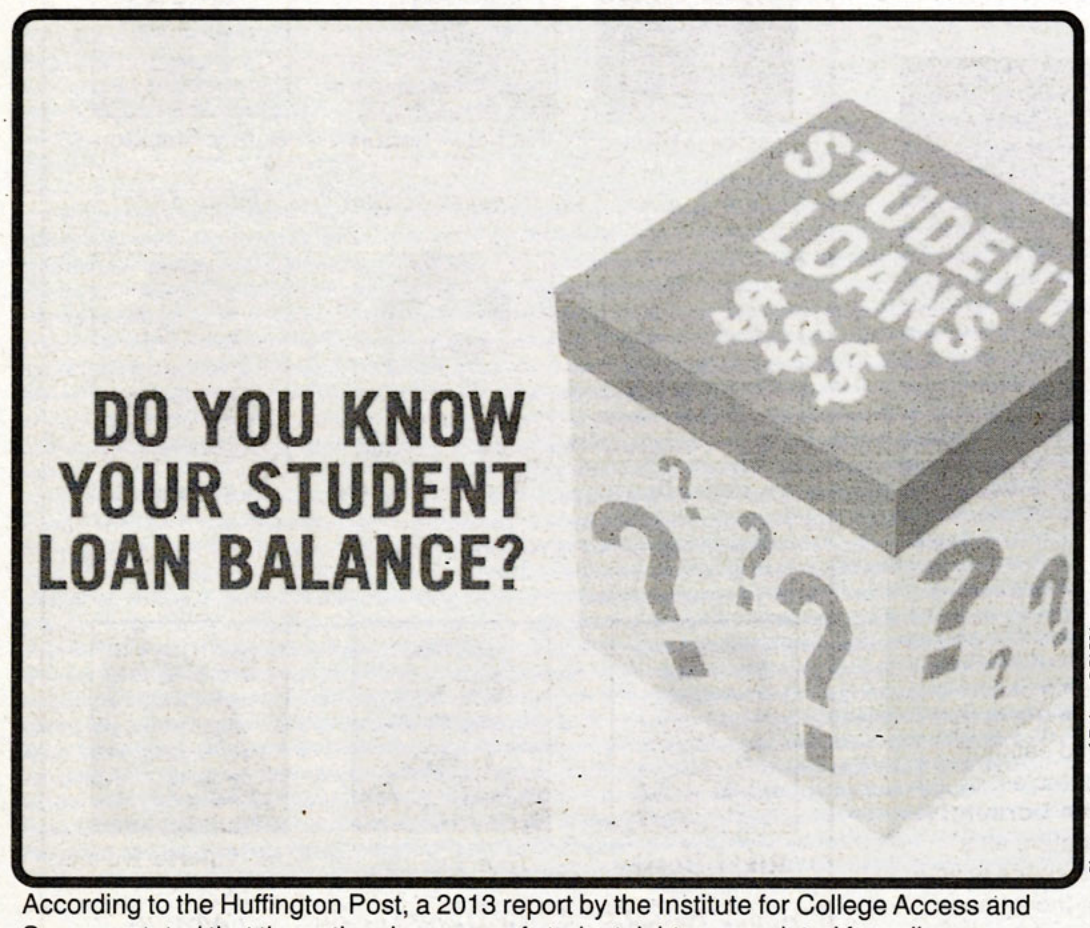


Photo courtesy of Twitter @FAFSA

According to the Huffington Post, a 2013 report by the Institute for College Access and Success stated that the national average of student debt accumulated for college graduates is nearing $30,000.

**By Erin Gaylord**
Staff Writer

Subsidized and Unsubsidized Federal Direct loans are often misunderstood by students.

One main difference between the two is often confused.

Subsidized loans don't charge the student interest on the loan until six months after he or she graduates. The student does, however, have to pay interest on the loan during the six month grace period after graduation or departure from school. Unsubsidized loans charge interest while the student attends school, according to Federal Student Aid, and this must be paid off either during the students enrollment in school, or it can be added to the principal amount of the loan. For Subsidized loans, the student must show financial need, but for Unsubsidized loans, it is not required.

Both loans can be used by undergraduate students, but only unsubsidized loans can be used by graduate students, according to "Federal Loans" on the Saint Leo website.

To be eligible for a direct loan, the student must be enrolled in school at least half-time. The students' grade level, or number or credits, is also used in determining the maximum amount of the loan per year.

The interest rates, according to Federal Student Aid, are between 3.86% and 6.21% depending on the loan and the date of disbursement.

Also according to Federal Student Aid, after filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the school will determine how much financial aid the student is eligible to obtain. It is up to the student to accept or decline the financial aid.

For first time students receiving a Direct Loan the entrance counseling and Master Promissory Note must be completed before the loan will be disbursed to the school. The entrance counseling form is information to ensure the consumer understands his or her obligations to repay the loan and when it has to be paid. The Master Promissory Note is agreeing with the terms and conditions of the loan being accepted. They can both be completed online at fafsa.ed.gov.

# Good Morning, My Dreams

**By Craig Graves**
Sports/Health/Science Page Editor

Photos taken by Jessica Miller

The Dramaturgy Department performed the play, "Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)," which is an adaptation of the Shakespearean plays "Othello" and "Romeo and Juliet." This play follows the actions of Constance Ledbelly (Alexis Garcia) as she tries to prove that these two works were not originally from Shakespeare, but rather were stolen from someone else. The play was divided into three acts with an introduction and closing monologue by a Rod Serling-esque chorus (Kayla Byant). The main plot of the play was creative, involving some whacking time and space traveling into the plays of "Othello" and "Romeo and Juliet." Though the set was minimalistic and the scenes changed often, the setting was still conveyed nicely and the location changes were easy to follow. The acting was lighthearted and enjoyable with many funny moments. The actors and actresses cast really breathed life into their characters and put on believable performances. "Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)" is an amazing adaptation of Shakespeare's plays and the students did a phenomenal job of giving it their own unique spin.

CHECK US OUT ONLINE!

## Strawberry Festival

Photo taken by Christine Bocchino

## James Carville

Photo taken by Jonathan Shoemaker

## Fall Athletics

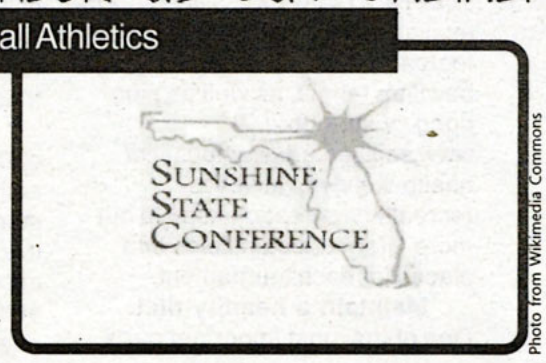


Photo from Wikimedia Commons

# Health

## Getting your fit on

By Brianna Llewellyn
Contributing Writer

Photo Courtesey of Wikimedia Commons

According to WebMD, people should exercise between 30-90 minutes per day with a total of 300 minutes per week.

At times, it may seem impossible to find time to exercise in between rushing back and forth to classes, doing homework, and preparing a worthwhile meal. However, with just a little effort such a mission can be accomplished. Over the years many college students have let the weight of their textbooks weigh them down. Still the story doesn't have to be the same for everyone. The infamous 'freshman 15' is not mandatory.
Here are a few tips that may help a busy college student keep up with their health and fitness and still find time to hit the books.

**Take the stairs.** A little bit of effort can make a big difference. Stair climbing can help increase strength and metabolism and as a result help burn more calories.

**Hit the gym.** Even if only for 30 minutes daily. All it takes is a bit of consistency to help maintain a fit and active lifestyle. The university gym is 3500 square feet and consists of many different machines that can be used to gain muscles and maintain fitness. Some equipment available for use at the University gyms include: treadmills, stair climbers, elliptical, bicycles, weights, jump ropes, and much more. Also, knowledgeable staff members are always at the front desk and willing to give a helping hand.

**Walk the road to Marmion and Snyder.** Walking the hill will get the heart pumping to help burn calories and breathing in the fresh air will make the journey much more bearable.

**Try an intramural sport.** There are many teams and sports available such as basketball, flag football, baseball, Frisbee, bowling, tennis, as well as ping pong. Visit: http://www.saintleo.edu/campus-life/health-wellness/athletics-recreation/recreation.aspx to out more information on times and places for each tournament.

**Maintain a healthy diet.** One of the most important parts of maintaining fitness is eating healthy. Of course there will be times when it's too hard to resist temptations and that's okay. However, make it a habit to try to drink more water and eat more fresh fruits and vegetables.

**Make use of the Dormitory.** If the gym is intimidating as a beginner, utilize the space in your room. Or check out the 24 hour fitness rooms in almost every apartment except for apartment 6, Roderick, and alumni. These people are allowed to use the fitness room in apartment 5 instead. Also, there are various videos and fitness gurus on the Internet that can help a beginner start or maintain various fitness goals along any fitness journey.

**Bring your friends with you.** Encourage friends to set fitness goals and be more active. Also, for some people exercise is much more fun if friends are there to cheer them on, or even challenge them to a bit of friendly competition.

**Ride a bike.** Instead of driving to the store, save gas and stay fit at the same time. Also, be careful on the roads, and be sure to wear a helmet.

**Invest in a pedometer.** A pedometer tracks steps and can help a beginner achieve fitness goals. Also some pedometers have alarms that go off when a user has been sitting in one place for too long. The alarm goes off to remind the user to form healthier habits

**Be kind.** The journey to fitness can be difficult at first but it is important to still be kind to one's self. It is also important to be patient even when the results of hard work are not showing. Taking the steps towards being healthier and more active is all that matters.

Choosing even two of these options could result in a more active lifestyle on campus. Before starting any new fitness regimens it is important to have a physician access personal fitness levels and help predict healthy ways to attain future fitness goals. ■

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- 500 words maximum
- No profane or slanderous language
- Students: Include name and year
- Faculty: Include name and rank
- Please include a phone number to verify authorship
- We reserve the right to edit for grammar/spelling/libel or publish
- Send submissions to **thelionspridenewspaper@gmail.com**

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# Science

## Google and the Future of Artificial Intelligence

By Kristen Collins
Contributing Writer

The world of technology is advancing in leaps and bounds, where science fiction may be closer to reality than ever before. A time filled in discovery and innovations, the 21st century is on a roll that seems to have no ending, especially in the field of computer programming. Specifically pertaining to Google, computer scientists have been able to create an artificial intelligence known as DeepMind. With such advancements, Google is using this research to make a whole new line of technological progression.

DeepMind is a computer prototype created to mimic the human mind, the most complex part of the human anatomy. It was created in 2011 and founded by Demis Hassibis, Shane Legg, and Mustafa Suleyman. By 2014, DeepMind Technology was brought into Google to further the development. Designing algorithms and neutral networking to best replicate the complexities of human memory and organization, the overall design comes from the in-depth research made by an American cognitive psychologist, George Miller. His studies on short-term memory and its capacities enable computer scientists of today to find ways in which to mimic the human brain. The prototype is one of the first steps to building the fantastical AI systems that could rival the fictional world.

Since games are becoming such an integral part of today's society, the scientists started their AI testing on its ability to play the old-school ATARI games. Out of a total of forty-nine games, DeepMind excelled and passed human scores on twenty-two of them, which can be pretty scary when thinking that this is just an AI prototype still with a lot of development ahead of it. At the moment DeepMind is able to succeed in basic games such as "Pinball" and other prediction games with very basic rules and limited possible movements. On the other hand, it cannot accomplish games with free-thought and multiple possibilities like the ATARI game "Private Eye." During this stage in research, the artificial intelligence is developing on the premise of learning and experiencing the world, much like a child would with trial-and-error.

Photo Wikimedia Commons

The Google Car drives around the world with camera in hand and expanding the ever-changing Google Maps.

Along with researching the possibility of replicating the human brain with the use of algorithms and complex formulas, Google is also looking into putting this self-learning technology into the future of cars. So far Google has made cars that drive themselves, testing them for hundreds of thousands of miles, but with the stipulations of these test runs going to a specific place with painstakingly detailed maps. With the emergence of AI, the possibility of expanding outside of such a controlled environment may be getting closer and closer. With more testing beginning for DeepMind to take on the 3D world outside of ATARI, the possibilities of progress begins. Researchers are beginning to not only put memory capacity and self-learning abilities into DeepMind, they are even creating complex algorithms sequencing decision-making abilities.

If all of these ideas come into fruition, DeepMind will not just be an artificial intelligence that can play games and drive cars, but become a mind of its own without the limitations of human mortality. Algorithms mimicking nerve transmitters, ROM representing memory, and a whole slew of outcomes await the DeepMind prototype. No crazy robot invasions seems to be on Earth's horizon yet but with the swiftness of technological advances, there is no telling how close or far away such a thing will be in the future. If the brain can indeed be replicated through technology, what does this hold for the rest of the world? A great benefit to the human race? The robotic uprising and liberation from humanity like many sci-fi films past and present? The Terminator? Gladios? Only the future can tell.

Photo Wikimedia Commons

Hands-free takes on a whole new meaning with Google inputting artificial intelligence to have cars drive themselves.

## Response to the Letter to the Editor

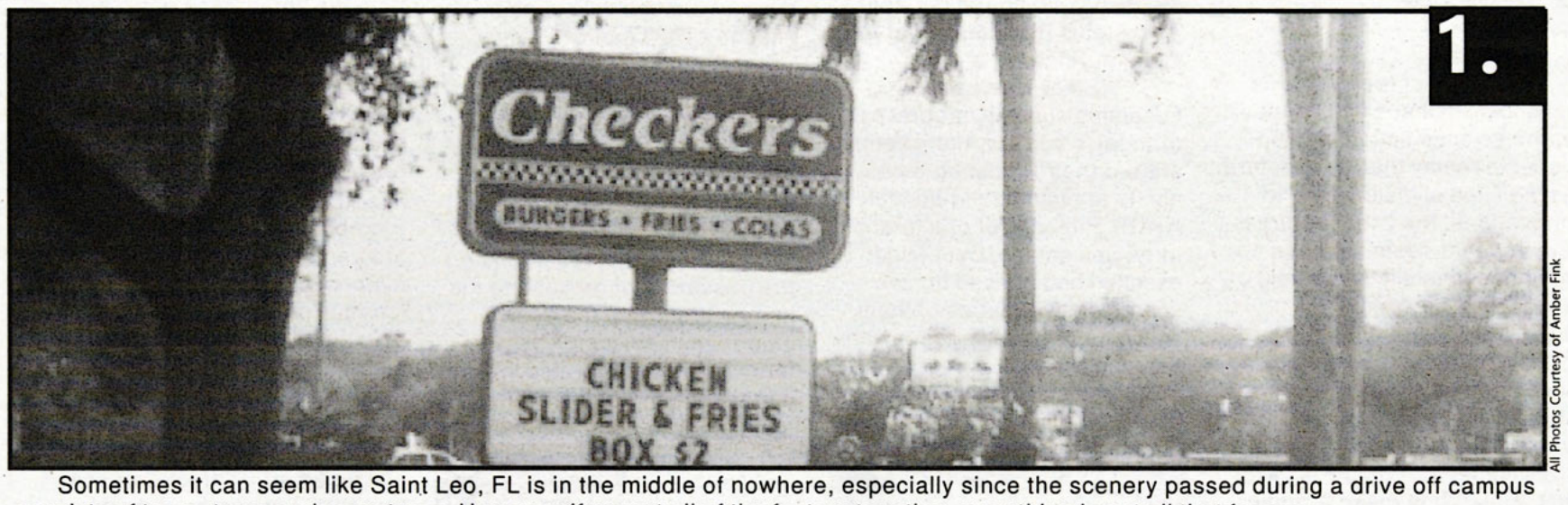
"I was quite impressed with your letter to the editor- inter cultural education: separate but equal?

The argument is well reasoned and a compassionate, evolved approach to what God would have us do here on our planet.

Peace,
Laura"

# Over The Hills: 9

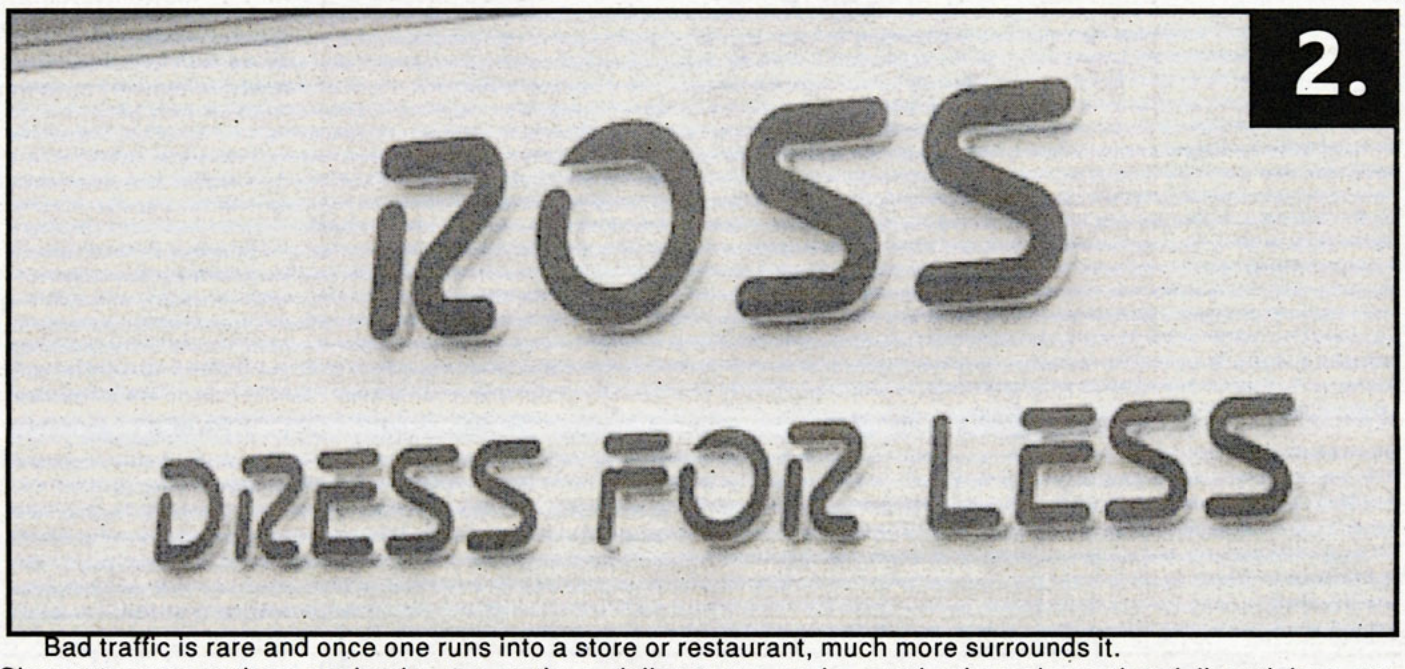
**By Amber Fink**
Advertising Manager



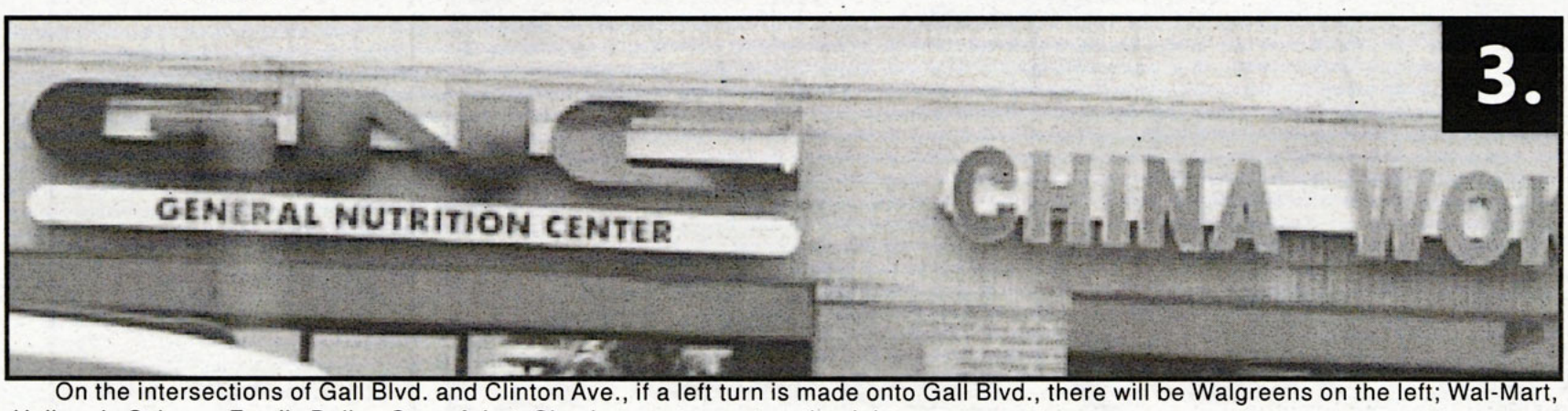

All Photos Courtesy of Amber Fink

Sometimes it can seem like Saint Leo, FL is in the middle of nowhere, especially since the scenery passed during a drive off campus consists of trees, trees and more trees. However, if we put all of the factors together everything is not all that far away.

On average, the speed limit within twenty minutes of campus varies from 45mph to 55mph.




Bad traffic is rare and once one runs into a store or restaurant, much more surrounds it. Closest to campus there are banks, gas stations, dollar stores, and a couple pizza places that deliver right to our dorm rooms.



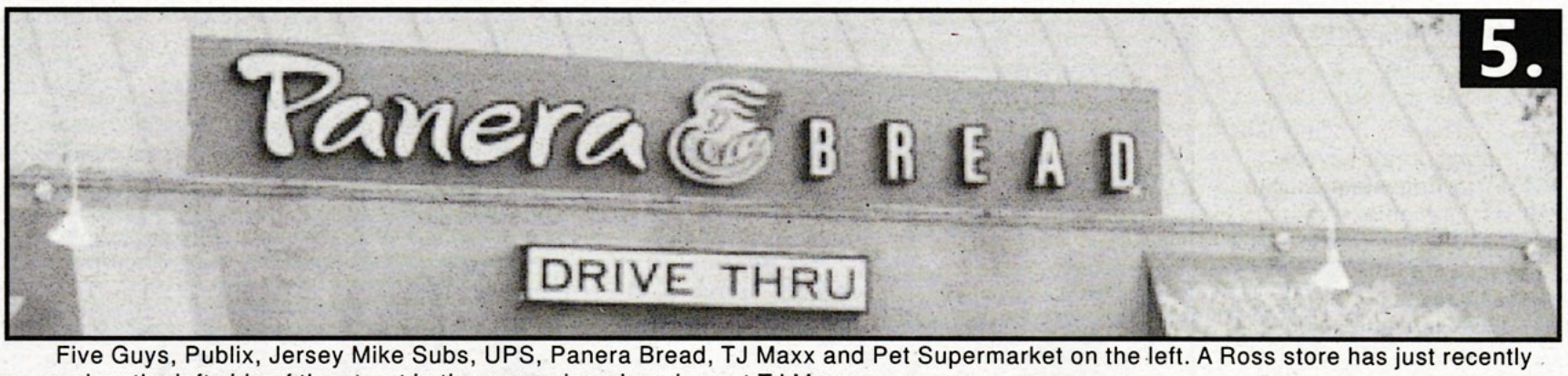

On the intersections of Gall Blvd. and Clinton Ave., if a left turn is made onto Gall Blvd., there will be Walgreens on the left; Wal-Mart, Hallmark, Subway, Family Dollar, Save-A-Lot, Checkers restaurant on the right.

On the other hand, if a right turn is made on Gall Blvd, then after several lights you'll come across a Happy Cow frozen yogurt,

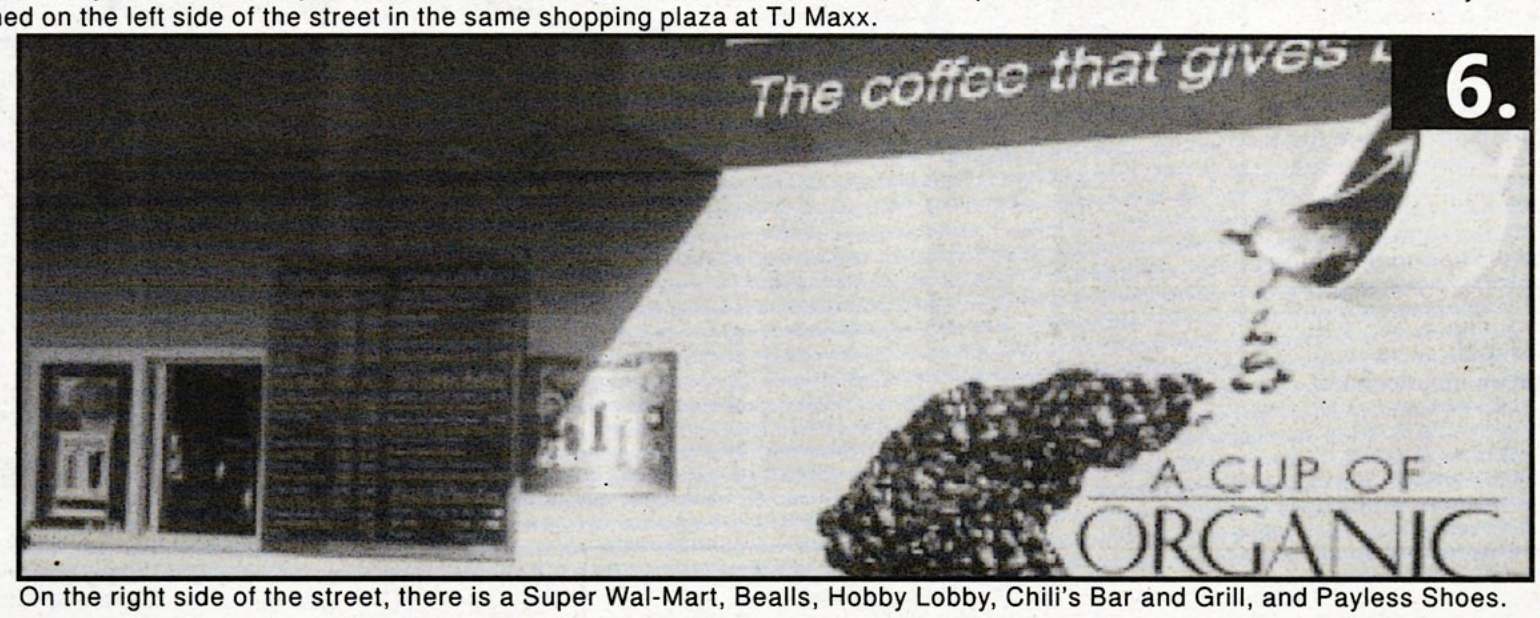
Check out what is beyond the closest at:
**www.eastpascomarketplace.combusinessdirectoryBDCategory.exe?Dir=ps&CatgCodeID=64465**

In a typical twenty-minute drive, there are over 100 restaurants, about two coffee and ice cream places, about three pizza places, and 11 fast food restaurants.

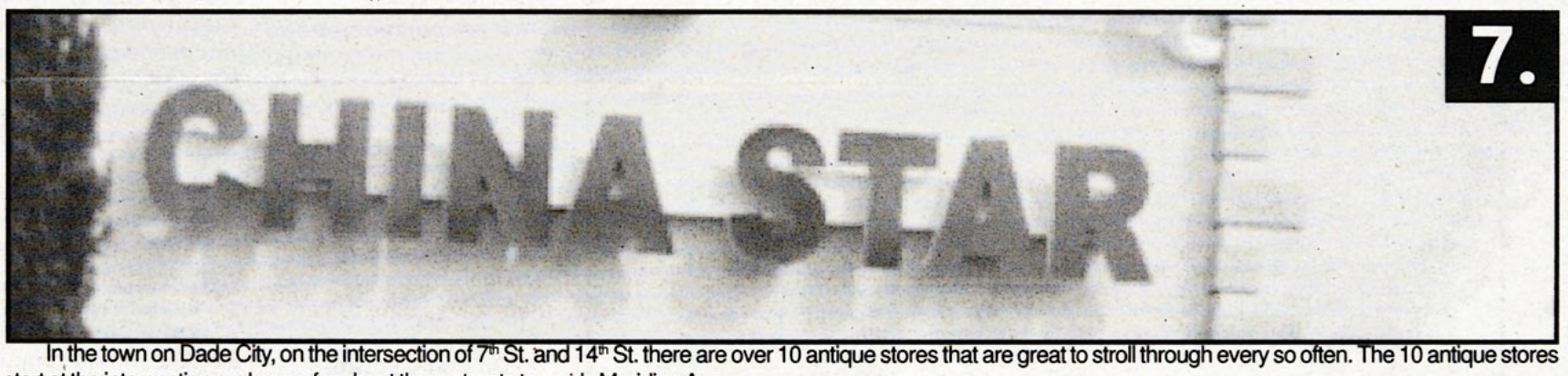
# Local Shops Nearby



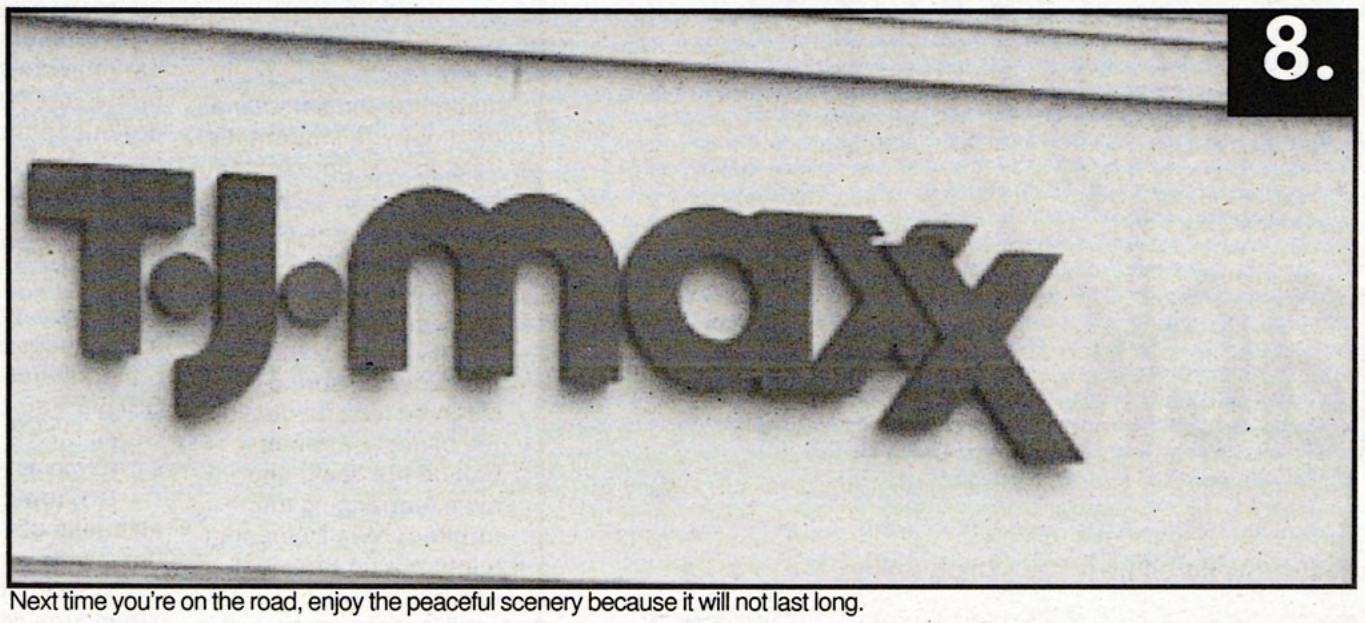

Five Guys, Publix, Jersey Mike Subs, UPS, Panera Bread, TJ Maxx and Pet Supermarket on the left. A Ross store has just recently opened on the left side of the street in the same shopping plaza at TJ Maxx.




On the right side of the street, there is a Super Wal-Mart, Bealls, Hobby Lobby, Chili's Bar and Grill, and Payless Shoes.




In the town on Dade City, on the intersection of 7th St. and 14th St. there are over 10 antique stores that are great to stroll through every so often. The 10 antique stores start at the intersection and go on for about three streets towards Meridian Ave.



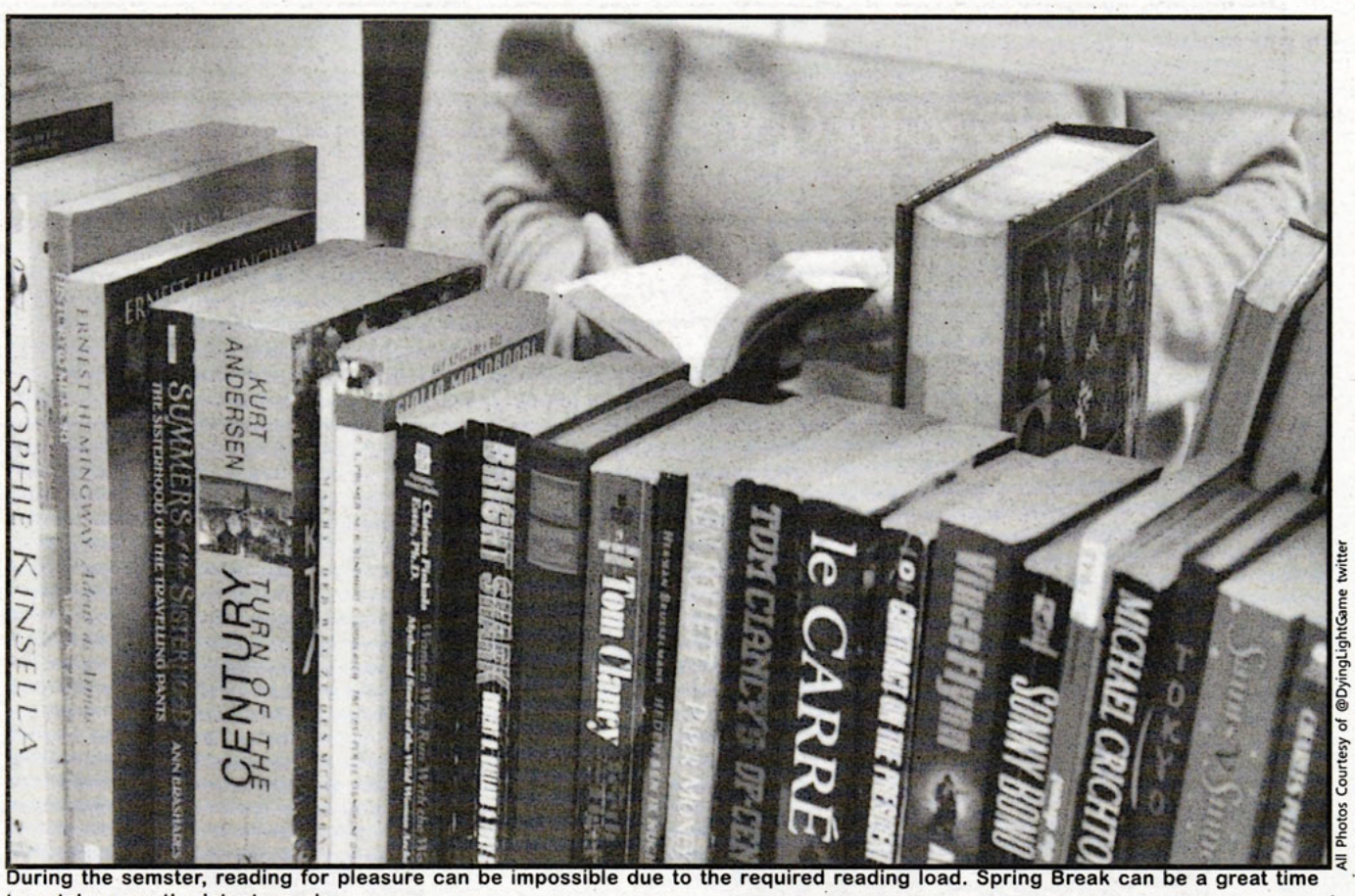

Next time you're on the road, enjoy the peaceful scenery because it will not last long.

Another shop or restaurant may be right around the corner.

# Arts & Entertainment

## Six Affordable Spring Break Activities

By Brianna Llewellyn
Staff Writer




All Photos Courtesy of @DyingLightGame twitter

During the semster, reading for pleasure can be impossible due to the required reading load. Spring Break can be a great time to catch up on the latest novels.

There is nothing like spring break: a week away from alarm clocks, assignments, and most importantly, classes!

It's a time to relax - unless of course you have very little to no money, no car, and are stuck on campus. Still, there have been many week-long breaks where students with tight budgets had to make the best of being on campus (myself being one of them).

While spring break in the movies consists of late mornings and wild nights spent at various dream destinations not everyone has the resources to live a life of such luxuries. However, with a few smart tips a college student on a budget can still have fun over spring break.

**Meet someone new.** Chances are the campus has not been deserted. There might still be a few students hanging around campus and looking for new friends. Take a stroll around campus and if by chance someone is walking around by themselves stop to say hello.

**Do some spring-cleaning.** Most people are familiar with the phrase spring cleaning. It's pretty much a deep cleaning, and sometimes as a college student it's hard to find time to do it. However, a week without classes and assignments is plenty of time to make sure your place of dwelling is in tip top shape. Some common tasks during spring cleaning include dusting the blinds, sweeping behind the desk, and even rearranging the furniture. While cleaning might not be the most enjoyable task playing your favorite music can spice it up.

**Browse DIY projects on Pinterest.** DIY (do it yourself) & Crafts is one of the most popular categories on Pinterest and with user submissions from all over the world a person is bound to find a project worth recreating. Pick one, gather some supplies, and let your creative juices flow.

**Catch up on recreational reading.** The majority of reading for college students is required, and most times it is not something students would read if they had a choice. However, the library is open over spring break and students are more than welcome to check out books of their liking.

**Volunteer with SERVE.** During spring break SERVE offers a variety of free volunteer trips. Sometimes participants visit local farms, shelters, and organizations. At the end of the week student volunteers are awarded with community service hours as well as a free trip to a local amusement park. For any questions about upcoming opportunities with SERVE email Jennifer Garcia at serve.program@saintleo.edu.

**Do homework.** If all else fails do some homework and study because finals are right around the corner. Although homework is not the ideal activity to be doing over spring break, it never hurts. Check the syllabus and identify approaching deadlines, try to become familiar with the texts as well as the learning objectives.

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Hunter or Hunted: How will you Evolve?

**By Dakota Schwalbach**
Contributing Writer

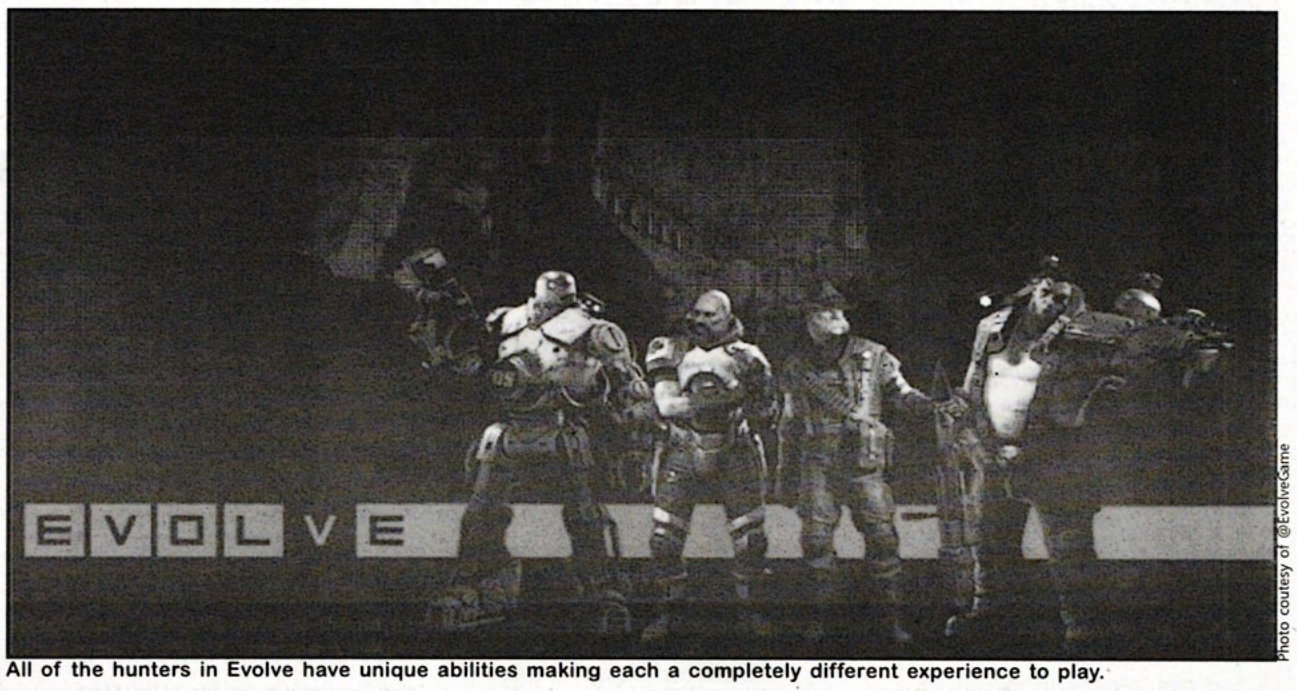

Photo courtesy of @EvolveGame
**All of the hunters in Evolve have unique abilities making each a completely different experience to play.**

Released on February 2, 2015, Evolve features asymmetrical team based gameplay. Every match of Evolve features four players in the roles of varying "hunters" and one player in the role of the "monster." As the player progresses through the game, they unlock new hunters and monsters to play in online matches.

Evolve is based around the story of an international organization hiring several ex-mercenaries, soldiers, and hunters to locate, track, and kill an assortment of monstrous creatures that escaped from captivity. These monsters are now terrorizing the local wildlife and destroying the environment as they rampage through it.

When playing as a hunter, communication is crucial. Communication as a hunter in Evolve is important because the players on the hunter team need to be able to track the monster's whereabouts as well as any de-buffs, an ongoing effect that hampers the affected target, being applied by other hunters. Due to the team based nature of Evolve, it is recommended that players do not attempt to kill the monster on their own as every member of the hunter group has an important role that cannot be covered by another class. While in the lobby of a match, the hunters are required to select one class out of four available options; this proceeds to one player being assigned to the medic, assault, support, and trapper roles. Although there are only four roles to choose from, the developers at 2K Games provided a large amount of class diversity within each role; this is due to there being three different characters with unique attributes for each class.

When playing as a medic, the player's role is to heal and provide speed, cloaking, and instant revive buffs to the team, while at the same time applying damage over time and armor shredding de-buffs to the monster. Assault players are the tanks of their team as they are able to soak up a large amount of damage while being able to return an equal amount of damage to the monster. The characters for the assault role have options within their kit, which is what abilities and equipment players have at their disposal, to keep them alive and add to their already high damage; the assault characters have options such as personal shields, personal damage buffs (at a cost of their own health), damage over time grenades, and proximity mines. As a support member, your job in the match is to provide additional buffs to your team; these buffs include cloaking, damage buffs, shields for teammates, and marking of the monster and other lifeforms around the arena; however, the support role also is equipped to deal damage to the monster while at the same time keeping themselves safe. Supports are equipped to fire homing shots at the monster, deploy sentry guns, deploy radar to track the monster, and even call in high damaging airstrikes on pinpointed locations. Trappers have one of the more difficult roles in the game as they are the primary role tasked with tracking the monster and keeping it near the team of hunters so they can kill it; trappers have the ability to slow, momentarily immobilize, and create a force field to trap the monster inside. Through playing every class I personally found the support role to be the most enjoyable due to the variety of kits provided to support characters.

While the hunter team needs to stay in communication with each other, the monster relies only on their ability to process the information they see and hear. In contrast to the hunters, the monster has only three options to choose from: the Wraith, the Kraken, and the Goliath. When playing as the Wraith, players take on a more stealth based role; the Wraith's abilities focus on its ability to sneak up on the hunter group, dash in, create a decoy, grab a party member, and dash away to kill them in a matter of seconds. Kraken players have the ability to damage and keep the hunters away from them as the monster's playstyle being built around ranged abilities, long range knockbacks for disengaging, and mines that can be placed at the player's discretion. As the Goliath, monster players have the option to play a more "in your face" tank style of play; the Goliath's kit focuses around being near the hunter group and out putting a large amount of damage while being able to soak up a larger portion of damage in comparison the Kraken and Wraith. When playing the monster role, it is recommended that the player tries to avoid the hunter group as they proceed around the map, killing and consuming other lifeforms around the arena so they may evolve and gain access to their abilities. Hunters may also kill and "consume" certain lifeforms to gain additional buffs for their teams.

Running on the 4th Generation CryEngine, Evolve can be played in high definition on PC, PS4, and Xbox One consoles. After playing the game on both Xbox One and PC, it is safe to say that there is no lag on the either version of the game; however, the game does require a strong computer in order to run at even medium-high settings.

Evolve is a rather enjoyable game; it is a great change of pace for gamers familiar with first person shooters. Evolve is a great game for anyone looking for a new style of the FPS genre.

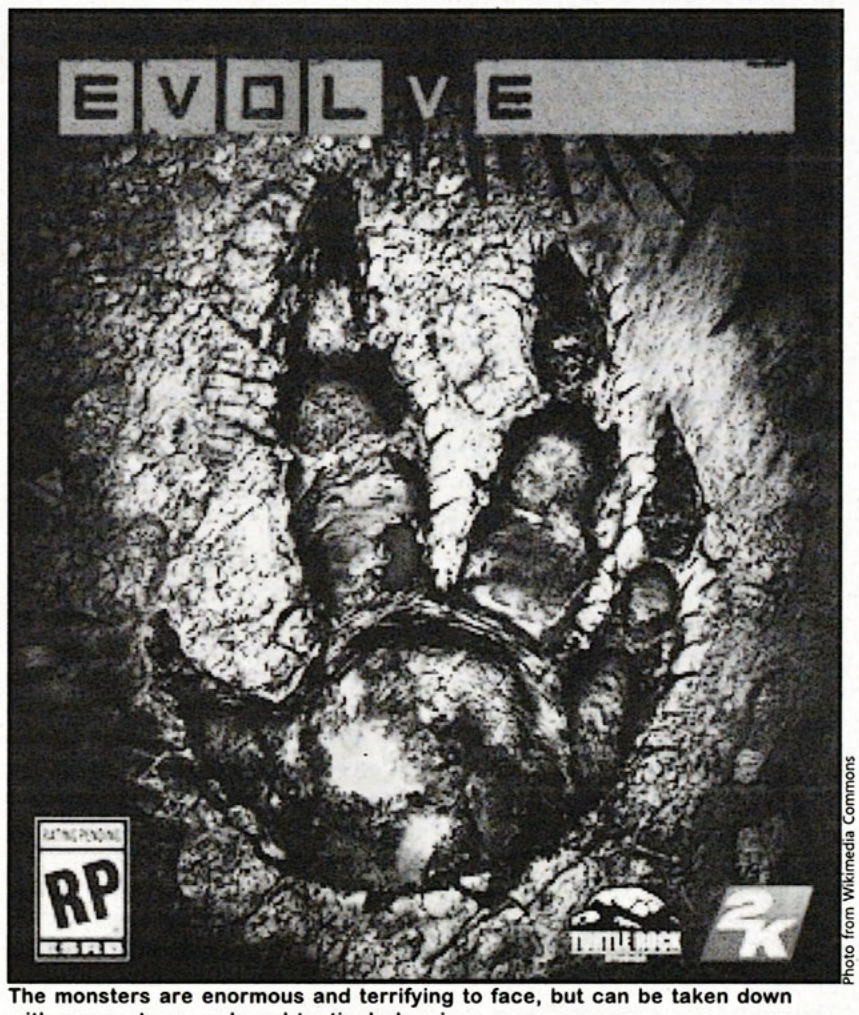

Photo from Wikimedia Commons
**The monsters are enormous and terrifying to face, but can be taken down with proper teamwork and tactical planning.**

# Sports

## Lions' Baseball Opens with Tough Conference Loss

**By Samantha Witte**
Contributing Writer

The Saint Leo Men's Baseball team stayed home this weekend for a three game series against Nova Southeastern University Sharks. This was their first Sunshine State Conference series of the season. The Lions headed into this game with the number 10 ranking, and the Sharks hold the number 13 ranking. Saint Leo also went into this game with a record of 17-1, having lost only to Lindenwood. The games of this series were played at 6:00 p.m. on Friday night and a double-header beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday.

**Friday, March 6, 2015-**

A light mist lingered in the air and a cool breeze gently passed on through as the Lions prepared to take on Nova for the first game of their three game conference series of the weekend. Michael Dunnigan is the first to take the mound for the Lions.

**Game 1:**

The first inning finishes quickly with only one hit by Nova with a pick-off to end the top of the inning, and then Leo wasn't able to find a gap with the first two hits. Then in the second, Nova is able to score one on a solo homerun by the first batter to step up to the plate. The Lions respond by getting two runners on base, but they were not able to get anyone across the plate.

In the fourth, Saint Leo was able to tie the game up starting with a leadoff double by Cole Stancil. Stancil was then able to steal third after a walk by Jordan Taylor. Troy Sieber hit a sacrifice fly to center, which allowed Stancil to safely cross the plate.

The Sharks did not take the Lions' response too well, and they produced a homerun in the top of the fifth that scored two, making the score 1-3. Then, just to make sure of their lead, the Sharks scored two more in the top of the sixth. After the first run, Saint Leo brought in pitcher, Brett Nizamoff to finish off the inning. The Lions were trailing by five with a score of 1-6.

In the top of the seventh, Saint Leo made another pitching change. This time, they brought in Jordan Pendleton, but the Sharks were still able to squeeze in one more to add to the board. The Lions were just not able to find a gap for the ball to get through, and they remained unable to add to their one run. In the ninth, Eoin McAvinchey came in to close out the game for the Lions and prevented Nova from adding to their lead.

The final score of the game was 1-7, which was a tough loss for the Lions, being only the second one for them this season. Their hits were just not able to find a way through. They appeared to be ready for the next chance to turn this series around and get back on their winning track.

**Saturday, March 7, 2015-**

The Lions came out on a bright, sunny, and beautiful day for baseball to turn the momentum around for the second and third games of the conference series. Liam O'Sullivan took the mound this time for the Lions.

**Game 2:**

In the first inning, Nova came out strong and put up three runs on the Lions. The Lions were able to cut down the deficit by putting up one run in response with a single by Dylan Harris followed by a double from Jordan Taylor to score him.

The second inning had fans on the edge of their seats with all of the action. The Sharks added two to their score, but Saint Leo was able to take the lead by putting up five more runs on the board. The rally started with a walk by Troy Sieber, followed by a double by Bobby Twitty to place Sieber in scoring position. Dale Irving got the two RBIs with another double. The last three runs scored on a double by Nick Perez, single by Harris, and another double by Cole Stancil.

In the third, the Sharks took back the lead by scoring four and forcing a pitching change in the Saint Leo defense. Brandon Mumaw came in to pitch after the damage was done. Saint Leo was not able to add to their score this inning, but they added one in the fourth. This made the score after five, 7-9.

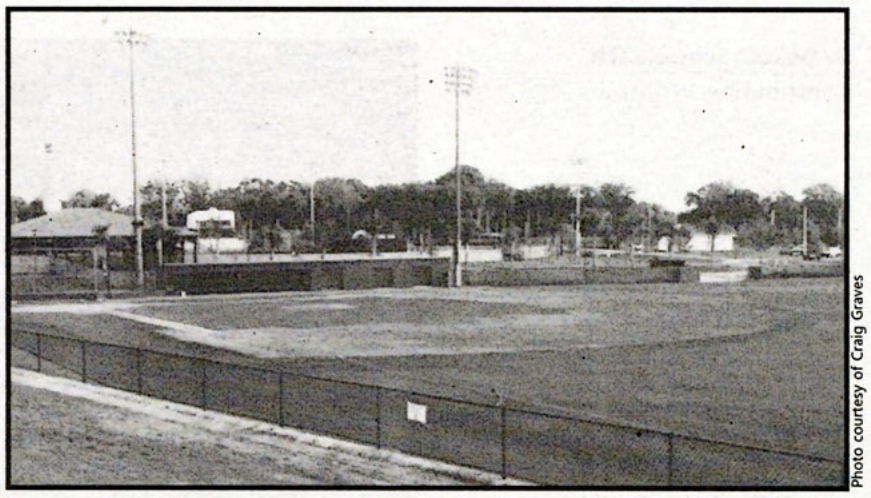

Photo courtesy of Craig Graves

**Though these baseball games ended in losses, the season is still young and there are many more opportunities to improve on the already winning record.**

The bats of the Sharks came alive and were hot in the top of the fifth, and they added five more runs to their two-run lead, leaving Saint Leo with a lot of catching up to do. Dylan Collett also came in for a pitching switch towards the end. Leo added one in the sixth starting with a walk by Perez, who was brought in on a single by Alex Mata.

Nova was only able to score one more run for the remainder of the game on a solo homerun in the seventh, and Saint Leo added three more in the eighth that were scored on three hits and an error.

Saint Leo faced a long and tough loss with a final score of 15-11 for the third loss of their season. There is only one more game left against Nova, and one more chance for Saint Leo to walk away with a win in the series.

**Game 3:**

The second game of the day for the Lions got a bit of a late start after the eventful first game of the double header against Nova. The Lions needed to come out looking for revenge in this game, and they choose Jordan Taylor to start in the circle for the final game in the series.

The first inning finished quickly, with no score by either team and simply a single and three quick outs by both teams as well. It was not until the second inning that Nova broke the tie and had one runner cross the plate.

Both teams were then able to hold each other scoreless until the fifth inning when Saint Leo was able to tie the game back up. They started the inning off with an error by Nova to get Alex Mata to first base. Mata was then able to reach second on a groundout by Bobby Twitty, then reached third on a single by Nick Boland, and finally crossed home on a sacrifice fly by Chase Turner.

Nova responded quickly by scoring another run in the top of the sixth, and Leo was unable to make anything happen in the bottom of the sixth. Then, Nova came out and scored two more in the top of the seventh, but this time Leo was able to come back with one in the bottom of the inning. This still left the Lions trailing the Sharks by two with two innings left to play. Tyrone Miller also came in to finish out the game on the mound for the Lions.

In the bottom of the ninth, Leo was able to put the pressure on with two runners on base, one on third and one on first. They just were not able to get anything through enough to score the runs needed for the win. The Sharks gave the Lions their fourth loss of the season, but the Lions will be back out next week to turn their streak around in the winning direction again.

## Tampa Bay Rays 2015- Swing and a Miss

**By Matt Vandenburgh**
Contributing Writer

The 2015 baseball season is approaching, and teams are now in Florida and Arizona, getting ready during Spring Training. Down in Port Charlotte, Fla, the Tampa Bay Rays are looking forward to a bounce back season following a disappointing 77-85 2014 season.

There have been many changes to both the Rays' roster and front office. Manager Joe Maddon has left for the Chicago Cubs and General Manager Andrew Friedman left to work for the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The Rays also traded many fan favorites, cutting costs and attempting to restock a depleted farm system. They traded Ben Zobrist and Yunel Escobar to the Oakland Athletics for two minor league players and catcher John Jaso, which saved the team more than $4.5 million in payroll. They also traded Wil Myers and other players to the San Diego Padres for pitcher Burch Smith and two other players. They did sign infielder Asdrubal Cabrera for $10 million, bringing his talented bat to Tampa Bay.

The Rays season hinges on their talented pitching staff, and bounce back seasons for some of their batters.

Star third baseman Evan Longoria is hoping to return to form, as a repeat of last season where he hit for a .253 batting average, 18 points lower than his career average. Longoria will also be looking to improve his power numbers, as he hit only 22 home runs last season, ten fewer than the season before that.

Pitching will again be key for the Rays. After the trade that sent former Cy Young award winner David Price to the Detroit Tigers, the Rays have fielded a starting pitching staff anchored by ace Alex Cobb, whose earned run average of 2.87 would have resulted in a record better than 10-9 last season had the offense done its part.

With the offense not expected to improve much, if at all, it is unlikely that Cobb's wins will go much higher. To have any hope of making the postseason this year, the team must stay afloat until the true ace, Matt Moore, returns from the injury that only allowed him to pitch in two games last season.

The relievers remain as shaky as ever, with Brad Boxberger penciled in as the likely closer to start the season. With the last few seasons having to change the closer midway through the seasons, however, it is likely fans will see one or two changes to the closer position this season as well.

That said, no team competes against themselves. The Rays will still face challenges from the rest of the American League Eastern Division, with the Baltimore Orioles and the Toronto Blue Jays leading the way as the probable tops of the division. The Rays will likely be competing for third place with the Boston Red Sox and the New York Yankees, a competition that they will probably not win.

The pitching staff will keep the Rays competitive in most of their games, but it is unlikely they will win most of them. Fans of the Rays should brace themselves for a long season, which will probably end with a losing record and a out of the playoffs.